

**REMARKS**

The present amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed September 26, 2006. Claims 1 – 13 are currently pending in the application. No new matter or issues are believed to be introduced by this amendment. In view of the amendments above and the remarks to follow, reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

***Information Disclosure Statement***

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that the listing of references in the specification is not a proper information disclosure statement. The Examiner's reminder that 37 CFR 1.98(b) requires a list of all patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office has been noted.

***Objection to the Specification***

In the Office Action, the Specification was objected to for failing to include section headings. Applicants respectfully declines to add the headings as they are not required in accordance with MPEP §608.01(a) and requests withdrawal of the objection to the specification.

***Objection to the Abstract***

In the Office Action, the abstract of the disclosure was objected to because it failed to comply with the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure. By means of the present amendment, the current Abstract has been amended as shown in the enclosed Replacement

Abstract in a manner which is believed to overcome the objection. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

***Claim Objections***

In response to the objections of Claims 1, 8 and 11, it is submitted that they have been amended in a manner which is believed to overcome the objections.

***Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102(b)***

Claims 1-3 and 8-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,083,012 –Suzuki et al. (hereinafter Suzuki).

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 1-3 and 8-11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), however, Independent Claim 1 has been amended and Claims 12-13 have been added herein to better define Applicant's invention and to patentably distinguish Applicant's invention over Suzuki. Claims 1 and 12-13 now recite limitations and/or features which are not disclosed or suggested by Suzuki.

Claim 1 now recites –

[1] A lamp fixation system for fixing an electric lamp in a reflector housing, whereby a cap of the lamp is clamped in a hole in said reflector housing, wherein said cap is divided into a substantially cylindrical surface and a substantial flat surface,  
wherein a surface of said cap is divided into a first portion and a second portion, said first portion being electrically insulated from said second portion, each of said first and second portions including an electrical contact for supplying electric current to a filament in a bulb of said electric lamp,

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- (i) said first portion covering a part of a cylindrical surface of said cap, freely movable in a radial direction, and said first portion covering a part of a flat portion of said cap, fixedly attached thereto, and
- (ii) said second portion covering a remainder of a relevant surface of said cap, wherein said first portion is provided with first spring means for providing a radially directed outward force for pushing against a surface at an inner wall of said hole in said reflector housing.

New Claim 12 recites –

[12] A lamp fixation system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said portion is a curved metal surface.

New Claim 13 recites –

[13] A lamp fixation system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said flat surface has a diameter of substantially equal dimension to a diameter of said cylindrical surface.

The present invention, as recited in Claim 1 is distinguishable from Suzuki for at least the following reasons.

Suzuki discloses a socket, according to one embodiment, which comprises a socket body 61, flange 62 and connection terminals 63 mounted in the socket body. Each of the connection terminals 63 has a conductor contact portion 64 which is formed by bending a relevant portion of a plate material. The conductor contact portions 64 project laterally from the socket body 61. FIG. 8 of Suzuki shows a condition in which the socket 60 is mounted on the socket mounting portion 42. The conductor contact portion 64 is held in contact with the plate-like conductor 43 mounted in the conductor holding recess 44.

Conductor holding recesses 44 are formed in a peripheral surface of a socket mounting port 46, and the conductor mounting grooves 45 are formed in the rear end surface 48 of the socket mounting portion 42, and each plate-like conductor 43 is mounted in the associated conductor holding recess 44 and the associated conductor mounting groove 45, and the conductor contact portions 64 project from the socket body 61 so as to contact the plate-like conductors 43, respectively. Each of the conductors has a plate-like configuration, and therefore can be positively electrically connected to the conductor contact portion 64, so that the reliability of the rear combination lamp 40 is further enhanced.

In contrast to the lamp fixation system of Suzuki, the inventive lamp fixation system comprises a cap divided into a substantially cylindrical surface and a substantially flat surface, as recited in claim 1. The flat surface having a diameter substantially equal to the diameter of the cylindrical surface, as recited in claim 12. It is respectfully submitted that these features are neither taught nor suggested in Suzuki.

The inventive lamp fixation system further comprises a cap surface divided into a first and second portion, with the first portion being electrically insulated from the second portion, as recited in claim 1. It is respectfully submitted that this feature is neither taught nor suggested in Suzuki.

The inventive lamp fixation system further comprises spring means being provided in the first portion of the cap for providing a radially directed outward force for pushing against a surface at an inner wall of the hole in the reflector housing. It is respectfully submitted that this feature is neither taught nor suggested in Suzuki. Instead, Suzuki teaches that - *The conductor contact portion 64 is held in contact with the plate-like conductor 43 mounted in the conductor holding recess 44.*

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Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) with respect to Claim 1 and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-3 and 8-10 depend from independent Claim 1 and therefore contain the limitations of Claim 1 and is believed to be in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons given for Claim 1 above. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and allowance of Claims 2-3 and 8-10 is respectfully requested.

Independent Claim 11 as amended, recite similar subject matter as Claim 1 and therefore contain the limitations of Claim 1. Hence, for at least the same reasons given for Claim 1, Claim 11 is believed to be allowable over Suzuki. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and allowance of Claim 11 is respectfully requested.

***35 U.S.C. §103(a)***

In the Office Action, dependent Claims 4-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,083,012 – Suzuki in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,855,430 – Coushaine et al. (hereinafter Coushaine).

In view of the amendments above, it is respectfully submitted that the disclosures of Suzuki and Coushaine, alone and in any proper combination, do not obviate the Applicants' independent claim recitations for claim 1. Hence, for at least the same reasons given for Claim 1 above, Claims 4-7 are believed to be allowable over Suzuki in view of Coushaine, taken alone or in any proper combination.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) with respect to Claims 4-7 and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

***New Claims***

Claims 12 and 13 have been added. New Claim 12 is supported in the specification at par. 25 which recites:

[0025] First portion 6 is in fact a curved metal strip. The part of first portion 6 covering the flat surface 4 is attached to the cap 2 of the lamp, and the part covering the cylindrical surface 3 is free movable in radial direction. Since the first portion 6 is made from elastic metal, the outwardly extending contact 10 can be pushed inwardly, whereby the first portion 6 function as a spring member providing a radial outwardly directed force.

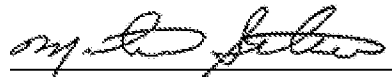
New Claim 13 is supported in the specification in FIGS. 1-3.

**Conclusion**

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all claims presently pending in the application, namely, Claims 1-13 are believed to be in condition for allowance and patentably distinguishable over the art of record.

If the Examiner should have any questions concerning this communication or feels that an interview would be helpful, the Examiner is requested to call Mr. Frank Keegan, Intellectual Property Counsel, Philips Electronics North America, at 914-945-9669.

Respectfully submitted,



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